

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☒

Property Name: Blob's Park Inventory Number: AA-2377
Address: 8012 Max Blob's Park ^{Road} Drive Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Jessup Zip Code: 20794 County: Anne Arundel
USGS Quadrangle(s): Savage
Property Owner: Eggerl, Katherine Tax Account ID Number: 90028506
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 70 Tax Map Number: 13-18
Project: M D 175: MD 295 to MD 170 Agency: SHA
Agency Prepared By: EHT Tracerics
Preparer's Name: Elizabeth Breiseth Date Prepared: 3/6/2007
Documentation is presented in: MIHP form AA-2377
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes
Site visit by MHT Staf ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The property at 8012 Max Blob's Park Road is comprised of a farmhouse and its supporting outbuildings as well as a polka hall and its supporting outbuildings. The property, which has become popular for its polka hall, is known as Blob's Park. The single dwelling on the property was constructed circa 1910. It is supported by six outbuildings that are located north, east, and south of the house: two garages, a two-story storage shed, a small office building, a smokehouse, and three prefabricated sheds. The polka hall, sometimes referred to as Max Blob's Beer Park, has five supporting outbuildings. These outbuildings consist of a pavilion, storage shed, and three concession stands. All these buildings are sited on a large sloping lot ringed with dense and mature vegetation. The property is accessed by a winding, paved road that intersections with Old Annapolis Road (MD 175). The road leads to a large, paved parking lot that fronts the property.

Exterior Descriptions:

Single Dwelling:

Constructed circa 1910, this two-story, five-bay vernacular I-house is set on a stretcher-bond brick foundation. The house was

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Tim Tullman
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

6/6/07
Date

6/18/07
Date

200701062

constructed in three phases: the main block with an original ell, a 1950s addition to the main block that wraps around the south elevation of the ell, and a 1970s addition on the north elevation of the ell.

The wood-frame structure of this single dwelling's main block is clad in vinyl siding. A side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles covers the house. The roof has overhanging eaves, returns, and a central front-gabled bay with a raked cornice. The roof is pierced by an interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap. The house has symmetrical fenestration that consists of 1/1 vinyl replacement windows and a central single-leaf entrance. The paneled wood door has lights and a Colonial Revival-style surround with pilasters and dentils. All elevations have 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. A one-story, six-bay porch fronts the main block of the house and the 1950s addition. The porch has a half-hipped roof supported by turned posts with decorative brackets.

The two-story ell is set on a concrete-block foundation that is a combination of rock-faced block and parging. Covered by a front gable roof with returns, the ell is, like the main block, clad in vinyl siding and has 1/1 vinyl replacement windows.

An addition constructed in the 1950s is located on the south elevation of the main block. The one-story addition is clad in vinyl siding. The addition features a single-light window flanked by 1/1 vinyl windows on its south elevation. The wing on the south elevation extends east along the side of the main block and wraps around the rear elevation of the ell. The southeast corner of the addition that wraps around the ell is covered in stucco. The east elevation of the wing has 1/1 vinyl windows located above the stucco watertable.

The north elevation of the ell has a one-story, shed-roofed addition, which runs the length of the ell and abuts the main block of the house. This north addition, constructed circa 1970, is clad in vinyl siding. A one-story, shed-roofed porch extends from the addition and is flush with the northern elevation of the main block. Wood posts support the porch. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Garage:

Constructed of rusticated and rock-faced concrete blocks, this garage was constructed circa 1930. The one-story, two-bay garage features rusticated concrete blocks on the façade and rock-faced concrete blocks on the north, east, and south elevations. The garage has a front-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The roof has overhanging eaves and the gable end is clad in vertical-board siding. The garage has two metal, roll-up replacement doors on the west elevation and a fixed multi-light window on the north elevation. The garage is located northeast of the house off a paved circular drive that encircles the house. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Smokehouse:

A smokehouse of concrete-block construction is located southeast of the house. The smokehouse has a flat roof with overhanging eaves. A single-leaf wood door with strap hinges provides access to the interior of the structure. The smokehouse was constructed circa 1930. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Storage Shed:

A two-story, one-bay storage shed was constructed circa 1920. The structure was built with concrete blocks that have been covered with stucco. A steeply pitched hipped roof with exposed rafters covers the shed. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Windows on the first story have been enclosed with concrete blocks and covered with stucco. The second story has 6/6 windows. A single-leaf wood door on the north elevation provides ground-level access to the shed. A metal stair on the south elevation leads

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

AA-2377

Blob's Park

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to an entry opening that provides interior access at the second story. The storage shed is located directly east of the house. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Office:

The two-story, four-bay office building is located southeast of the house and northwest of the smokehouse. Constructed circa 1940, the structure is concrete block. A side gable roof with asphalt shingles and overhanging eaves covers the building. The gable ends are clad in vertical-board siding. The north elevation has a single-leaf paneled wood door with lights and symmetrically placed 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. The south elevation has asymmetrically placed 1/1 vinyl replacement windows and a single-leaf paneled wood door with lights. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Garage:

A second non-historic garage is located directly east of the house and the original garage. The garage, constructed circa 1970, is one story in height and two bays in width. The wood-frame structure is clad in vertical-board siding and covered by a side gable roof. The roof has overhanging eaves and a plain frieze board. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Fenestration consists of a roll-up paneled vehicular door and a single-leaf entry. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Three Prefabricated Sheds:

One prefabricated shed is located east of the office building. The shed is clad in T-111 siding and covered by a gambrel roof. The shed is accessible through a single-leaf hinged wood door. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Two prefabricated shed are located at the eastern edge of the property behind a wood fence. One shed, constructed with T-111 siding, has a shed roof. The other shed has T-111 siding and a front gable roof. The interiors were not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Polka Hall:

The main building associated with Max Blob's Beer Park is a one-story restaurant constructed in 1976, replacing the original 1933 building that burned in a fire in 1958. The four-bay building is set on a poured concrete foundation. The façade is covered with stucco and half-timbering, while the north, east, and south elevations are clad with corrugated metal. Double-leaf metal doors are located on the south elevation of the building. A side gable roof with a shallow pitch covers the restaurant. The façade is fenestrated with 3-light fixed windows. The entrance is located in a two-story, projecting front-gabled entry vestibule. The roof of the vestibule has overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. The vestibule is clad in stucco and half-timbering. Double-leaf 1-light doors are located on the north and south elevations of the vestibule while two 1-light windows are located on the west elevation of the vestibule. The second story of the entry vestibule has a single-leaf door leading to a balustraded balcony. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Pavilion:

The one-story, two-bay pavilion was constructed circa 1976. The pavilion is constructed of concrete blocks and covered by a front gable roof. The roof has overhanging eaves and is clad in asphalt shingles. The concrete blocks are painted and the structure is finished with half-timbering. The gable ends are clad in plywood and half-timbering. Metal support posts run the length of the pavilion's interior. The pavilion has two large entrances on the west elevation and one large entrance on the east elevation. The

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

north and south elevations also have entrances and window openings. Rows of picnic tables are housed in the pavilion.

Shed:

A one-story, one-bay shed of concrete-block construction is located between the restaurant and the pavilion. Constructed circa 1980, the structure is painted and ornamented with half-timbering. The shed, which is set on a poured concrete foundation, is covered by a flat roof. The interior of the building is accessed by a single-leaf door located on the west elevation. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Concession Stands:

Three concession stands are associated with Max Blob's Park. There are two similar concession stands of concrete-block construction with front gable roofs. Constructed circa 1980, the stands are both one story in height and one bay in width. The roofs, which are covered in asphalt shingles, have overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. The concession stands also have cornerboards. The service windows are located on the west elevations and the door openings are located on the east elevations of both buildings.

A third concession stand is located south of the pavilion, while the two similar concession stands are located between the restaurant and the pavilion. The third concession stand, constructed circa 1980, is built of concrete blocks. The structure is covered by a side gable roof with eaves that overhang on the north elevation. The gable ends are clad in plywood. Spouts meant to dispense beverages are located on the north elevation. The interior of the concession stand is accessible through a single-leaf metal door on the west elevation. The interiors were not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Statement of Significance:

Blob's Park, whose main structure is less than fifty years old, is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Therefore, the buildings on the property are not recommended eligible under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the property is not recommended eligible under Criterion B. The buildings on the property do not embody distinctive characteristics of twentieth century commercial or residential architecture. The ornamentation on the polka hall is unique within Anne Arundel County; however, the building and its associated outbuildings are less than fifty years old. Further, the property's original farmhouse lacks stylistic expression and is a common example of the predominant type of dwelling built in Anne Arundel County in the mid- to late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Therefore, the property is not recommended eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D. Thus, Blob's Park is not recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under A, B, or C.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

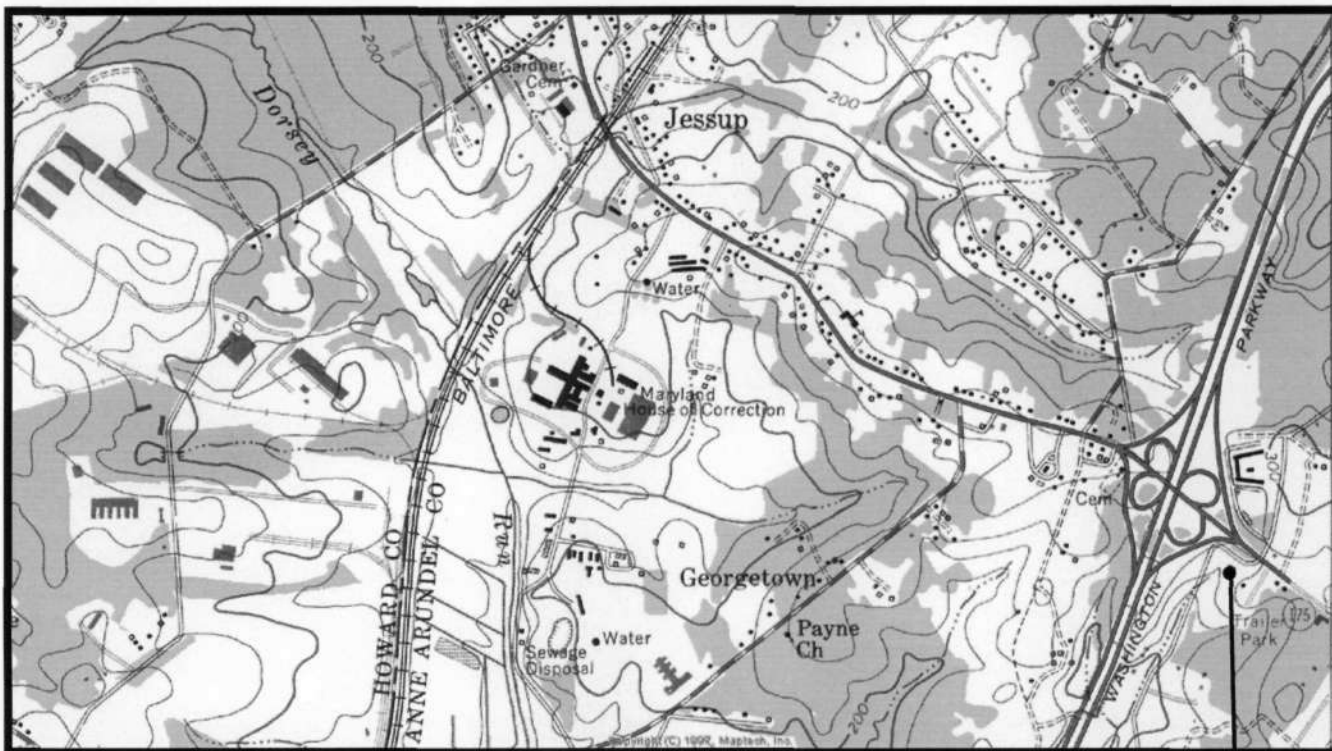
MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date



Blob's Park (AA-2377)
8012 Max Blob's Park Road
Jessup, Anne Arundel County, MD
Savage USGS Map
EHT Tracerics, Inc., 2007



Capsule Summary
AA-2377
Blob's Park
8012 Max Blob's Park Road
Jessup, Maryland
1976
Private

Blob's Park occupies a 220-acre tract of land that functioned as a farm from the turn of the twentieth century until the 1990s. A winding paved road (Max Blob's Park Road) leads from Old Annapolis Road (MD 175) to the property. The property is bounded to the north, east, and south by dense and mature vegetation. The property's present-day function is both commercial and recreational. The largest structure on the property is a polka hall that was constructed in 1976 and is referred to as Max Blob's Beer Park.

In 1933, property owner Max Blob built a structure on his farm that contained a bowling alley and a few tables to entertain his friends. Although the building was gutted by a fire in 1958, the establishment was reopened within a month. Due to its popularity, Blob's Park, as the property came to be known, expanded with the construction of a new building in 1976. The new building has several associated outbuildings to support the polka hall and beer garden as well as outdoor recreational activities. The original farmhouse, constructed circa 1910, remains on the property and continues to serve a residential purpose. The single dwelling located at 8012 Max Blob's Park Drive is an example of the I-houses found in Anne Arundel County dating from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA-2377

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Blob's Park
other Max Blob's Beer Park

2. Location

street and number 8012 Max Blob's Park Road not for publication
city, town Jessup vicinity
county Anne Arundel

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Katherine B. Eggerl
street and number 8012 Max Blob's Park Road telephone 410-799-3421
city, town Jessup state MD zip code 20794

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 6404 folio 635
city, town Annapolis tax map 13-18 tax parcel 70 tax ID number 90028506

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. AA-2377

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one-paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property at 8012 Max Blob's Park Road is comprised of a farmhouse and its supporting outbuildings as well as a polka hall and its supporting outbuildings. The property, which has become popular for its polka hall, is known as Blob's Park. The single dwelling on the property was constructed circa 1910. It is supported by six outbuildings that are located north, east, and south of the house: two garages, a two-story storage shed, a small office building, a smokehouse, and three prefabricated sheds. The polka hall, sometimes referred to as Max Blob's Beer Park, has five supporting outbuildings. These outbuildings consist of a pavilion, storage shed, and three concession stands. All these buildings are sited on a large sloping lot ringed with dense and mature vegetation. The property is accessed by a winding, paved road that intersections with Old Annapolis Road (MD 175). The road leads to a large, paved parking lot that fronts the property.

Exterior Descriptions

Single Dwelling:

Constructed circa 1910, this two-story, five-bay vernacular I-house is set on a stretcher-bond brick foundation. The house was constructed in three phases: the main block with an original ell, a 1950s addition to the main block that wraps around the south elevation of the ell, and a 1970s addition on the north elevation of the ell.

The wood-frame structure of this single dwelling's main block is clad in vinyl siding. A side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles covers the house. The roof has overhanging eaves, returns, and a central front-gabled bay with a raked cornice. The roof is pierced by an interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap. The house has symmetrical fenestration that consists of 1/1 vinyl replacement windows and a central single-leaf entrance. The paneled wood door has lights and a Colonial Revival-style surround with pilasters and dentils. All elevations have 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. A one-story, six-bay porch fronts the main block of the house and the 1950s addition. The porch has a half-hipped roof supported by turned posts with decorative brackets.

The two-story ell is set on a concrete-block foundation that is a combination of rock-faced block and parging. Covered by a front gable roof with returns, the ell is, like the main block, clad in vinyl siding and has 1/1 vinyl replacement windows.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA-2377

Blob's Park
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

An addition constructed in the 1950s is located on the south elevation of the main block. The one-story addition is clad in vinyl siding. The addition features a single-light window flanked by 1/1 vinyl windows on its south elevation. The wing on the south elevation extends east along the side of the main block and wraps around the rear elevation of the ell. The southeast corner of the addition that wraps around the ell is covered in stucco. The east elevation of the wing has 1/1 vinyl windows located above the stucco watertable.

The north elevation of the ell has a one-story, shed-roofed addition, which runs the length of the ell and abuts the main block of the house. This north addition, constructed circa 1970, is clad in vinyl siding. A one-story, shed-roofed porch extends from the addition and is flush with the northern elevation of the main block. Wood posts support the porch. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Garage:

Constructed of rusticated and rock-faced concrete blocks, this garage was constructed circa 1930. The one-story, two-bay garage features rusticated concrete blocks on the façade and rock-faced concrete blocks on the north, east, and south elevations. The garage has a front-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The roof has overhanging eaves and the gable end is clad in vertical-board siding. The garage has two metal, roll-up replacement doors on the west elevation and a fixed multi-light window on the north elevation. The garage is located northeast of the house off a paved circular drive that encircles the house. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Smokehouse:

A smokehouse of concrete-block construction is located southeast of the house. The smokehouse has a flat roof with overhanging eaves. A single-leaf wood door with strap hinges provides access to the interior of the structure. The smokehouse was constructed circa 1930. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA-2377

Blob's Park
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 3

Storage Shed:

A two-story, one-bay storage shed was constructed circa 1920. The structure was built with concrete blocks that have been covered with stucco. A steeply pitched hipped roof with exposed rafters covers the shed. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Windows on the first story have been enclosed with concrete blocks and covered with stucco. The second story has 6/6 windows. A single-leaf wood door on the north elevation provides ground-level access to the shed. A metal stair on the south elevation leads to an entry opening that provides interior access at the second story. The storage shed is located directly east of the house. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Office:

The two-story, four-bay office building is located southeast of the house and northwest of the smokehouse. Constructed circa 1940, the structure is concrete block. A side gable roof with asphalt shingles and overhanging eaves covers the building. The gable ends are clad in vertical-board siding. The north elevation has a single-leaf paneled wood door with lights and symmetrically placed 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. The south elevation has asymmetrically placed 1/1 vinyl replacement windows and a single-leaf paneled wood door with lights. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Garage:

A second non-historic garage is located directly east of the house and the original garage. The garage, constructed circa 1970, is one story in height and two bays in width. The wood-frame structure is clad in vertical-board siding and covered by a side gable roof. The roof has overhanging eaves and a plain frieze board. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Fenestration consists of a roll-up paneled vehicular door and a single-leaf entry. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA-2377

Blob's Park
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 4

Three Prefabricated Sheds:

One prefabricated shed is located east of the office building. The shed is clad in T-111 siding and covered by a gambrel roof. The shed is accessible through a single-leaf hinged wood door. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Two prefabricated shed are located at the eastern edge of the property behind a wood fence. One shed, constructed with T-111 siding, has a shed roof. The other shed has T-111 siding and a front gable roof. The interiors were not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Polka Hall:

The main building associated with Max Blob's Beer Park is a one-story restaurant constructed in 1976, replacing the original 1933 building that burned in a fire in 1958. The four-bay building is set on a poured concrete foundation. The façade is covered with stucco and half-timbering, while the north, east, and south elevations are clad with corrugated metal. Double-leaf metal doors are located on the south elevation of the building. A side gable roof with a shallow pitch covers the restaurant. The façade is fenestrated with 3-light fixed windows. The entrance is located in a two-story, projecting front-gabled entry vestibule. The roof of the vestibule has overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. The vestibule is clad in stucco and half-timbering. Double-leaf 1-light doors are located on the north and south elevations of the vestibule while two 1-light windows are located on the west elevation of the vestibule. The second story of the entry vestibule has a single-leaf door leading to a balustraded balcony. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Pavilion:

The one-story, two-bay pavilion was constructed circa 1976. The pavilion is constructed of concrete blocks and covered by a front gable roof. The roof has overhanging eaves and is clad in asphalt shingles. The concrete blocks are painted and the structure is finished with half-timbering. The gable ends are clad in plywood and half-timbering. Metal support posts run the length of the pavilion's interior. The pavilion has two large entrances on the west elevation and one large entrance on the east elevation. The north and south elevations also have entrances and window openings. Rows of picnic tables are housed in the pavilion.

Maryland Historical Trust

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Continuation Sheet

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Shed:

A one-story, one-bay shed of concrete-block construction is located between the restaurant and the pavilion. Constructed circa 1980, the structure is painted and ornamented with half-timbering. The shed, which is set on a poured concrete foundation, is covered by a flat roof. The interior of the building is accessed by a single-leaf door located on the west elevation. The interior was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

Concession Stands:

Three concession stands are associated with Max Blob's Park. There are two similar concession stands of concrete-block construction with front gable roofs. Constructed circa 1980, the stands are both one story in height and one bay in width. The roofs, which are covered in asphalt shingles, have overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. The concession stands also have cornerboards. The service windows are located on the west elevations and the door openings are located on the east elevations of both buildings.

A third concession stand is located south of the pavilion, while the two similar concession stands are located between the restaurant and the pavilion. The third concession stand, constructed circa 1980, is built of concrete blocks. The structure is covered by a side gable roof with eaves that overhang on the north elevation. The gable ends are clad in plywood. Spouts meant to dispense beverages are located on the north elevation. The interior of the concession stand is accessible through a single-leaf metal door on the west elevation. The interiors were not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. AA-2377

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1910, 1933, 1958, 1976

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates 1910, 1933, 1976

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Blob's Park occupies a 220-acre tract of land that functioned as a farm from the turn of the twentieth century until the 1990s. The property's present-day function is both commercial and recreational. The largest structure on the property is a polka hall that was constructed in 1976 and is referred to as Max Blob's Beer Park. In 1933, property owner Max Blob built a structure on his farm that contained a bowling alley and a few tables to entertain his friends. Although the building was gutted by a fire in 1958, the establishment was reopened within a month. Due to its popularity, Blob's Park, as the property came to be known, expanded with the construction of a new building in 1976. The new building has several associated outbuildings to support the polka hall and beer garden as well as outdoor recreational activities. The original farmhouse, constructed circa 1910, remains on the property and continues to serve a residential purpose. The single dwelling located at 8012 Max Blob's Park Drive is an example of the vernacular farmhouses found in Anne Arundel County dating from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The house, similar to other I-houses constructed in the county, is organized around a symmetrical plan. These nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century farmhouses were typically two stories in height with one room on either side of the central passage, which contained the stair. It was common for these houses to have ells extending from the rear elevation to form an L-shape or a T-plan.¹ The two-story farmhouse at 8012 Max Blob's Park Road is typical of farmhouses in Anne Arundel County and, more specifically, in Odenton, Maryland.

Blob's Park, whose main structure is less than fifty years old, is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Therefore, the buildings on the property are not recommended eligible under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the property is not recommended eligible under Criterion B. The buildings on the property do not embody distinctive characteristics of twentieth century commercial or residential architecture. The ornamentation on the polka hall is unique within Anne Arundel County; however, the building and its associated outbuildings are less than fifty years old. Further, the property's original farmhouse lacks stylistic expression and is a common example of the predominant type of dwelling built in Anne Arundel County in the mid- to late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Therefore,

¹ Donna M. Ware *Anne Arundel's Legacy: The Historic Properties of Anne Arundel County*. Office of Planning and Zoning: Anne Arundel County, 1990.

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Maryland Inventory of

Maryland Historical Trust

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. AA-2377

Blob's Park
Continuation Sheet

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the property is not recommended eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D. Thus, Blob's Park is not recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under A, B, or C.

Historic Context: Old Annapolis Road

Jessup developed around the intersection of Old Annapolis Road (MD 175) and the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad that opened in 1835. The town's name has changed several times, having been known as Pierceland Station, Hooverville, Andersonville, Jessop, and Jessup's Cut. By the 1870s, Jessup was a typical crossroads community in Anne Arundel County; the town consisted of a general store, blacksmith shop, post office, railroad, and large farming community. Jessup was situated close to iron ore banks and clay deposits, which brought a higher level of prosperity to the town. Ore was mined for the iron furnaces in the nearby towns of Elkridge and Muirkirk.²

The nearby town of Odenton was founded in 1868 due to its location along the Baltimore and Potomac (B&P) Railroad, which connected Baltimore and Washington, D.C. The B&P Railroad crossed the Annapolis and Elkridge (A&E) Railroad. At this intersection, a train station and post office were established and named for Oden Bowie, the owner of B&P Railroad. Small villages like Jessup developed around the railroad lines, of which Odenton was the largest with 100 residents, a church, a school, and two shops by 1878. Early industry in the area was agricultural; farms produced wheat, corn, and tobacco. Canneries, primarily for tomatoes, were constructed throughout the county and Odenton in the late nineteenth century. In 1914, the United States Naval Academy purchased the 800-acre Hammond Manor Farm and constructed a dairy that operated until 1998. In 1917, the United States Department of War acquired 19,000 acres of land west of Odenton and Jessup and established Fort Meade. The establishment of Fort Meade spurred the early-twentieth-century development of Odenton, Hanover, and Jessup, which are all located along MD 175. Growth in Odenton accelerated in the 1950s with the establishment of the National Security Agency at Fort Meade and Friendship International Airport, which is now known as the Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, a few miles north of Odenton. The suburban expansion of Baltimore and Washington, D.C. furthered the transformation of towns along MD 175 from agricultural villages to business, industrial, and residential centers.

Blob's Park

Max Blob emigrated from Germany to the United States with his family circa 1920.³ Blob settled on a farm just off of Old Annapolis Road in Anne Arundel County, which was primarily rural at the time. The Max Blob farm

² Maryland Historic Trust Inventory Form AA-20 "St. Lawrence Catholic Church," prepared by Donna M. Ware, 1993.

³ Federal Census 1920.

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produced corn, tomatoes, and squash.⁴ During the Great Depression, Blob would bring a truckload of his German friends from Baltimore to his farm in Jessup where guests were treated to home-brewed beer and German food. The popularity of Max Blob's Sunday gatherings prompted him to construct a small wood-frame building near his house for his guests. Following the end of Prohibition in 1933, Max Blob started a small dance club in the green stucco-covered building he constructed; the dance club also had a bowling alley. The original club had a few tables and offered live music. Blob added picnic tables outside and dubbed the property 'Blob's Park.'⁵ Blob's Park was known as a German beer garden and polka hall, yet the property remained a working farm.

Blob's Park grew increasingly popular over the years due to its good German food, polka dancing, and extensive beer selection, and Max Blob expanded his operations from Sundays only to Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. In 1958, the green stucco-covered polka hall was completely gutted by a fire. However, within a month the building was restored and re-opened. At the time of the fire, Max Blob's niece Katherine Eggerl and her husband John had been helping him manage the business for sixteen years. The original building was enlarged seven times between 1933 and 1975.⁶ Blob's Park continued to draw larger and larger crowds, necessitating a larger building. On June 25, 1976, the new facility that could hold one thousand people, which cost \$450,000 to construct, opened under Katherine Eggerl's ownership.⁷ The new building, a corrugated metal structure, is twice as large as the original building, which was razed in 1979.

By the 1990s, Blob's Park reduced its hours to Friday and Saturday nights; the working farmland had become an expansive lawn surrounded by empty fields. The farmhouse at 8012 Max Blob's Park Road has undergone minor alterations including the replacement of siding and windows. Garages, sheds, an office, and a smokehouse associated with the farm still stand but the expansion of the polka hall and the buildings associated with Blob's Park have comprised the integrity of the farm's character-defining features.

⁴ Susan Orlean, "The Queen of Saturday Night" *Washington Post* February 11, 1990: M19.

⁵ Esther Solomon, "Blob's: A Little Bavaria" *Washington Post* October 4, 1973: H1.

⁶ "Blob's Park: A Nightclub for the Family" *Frederick News Post* November 5, 1982: D-1.

⁷ <http://blobspark.com>

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. AA-2377

"Blob's Park: A Nightclub for the Family" *Frederick News Post* November 5, 1982: D-1.

Esther Solomon, "Blob's: A Little Bavaria" *Washington Post* October 4, 1973: H1.

Federal Census 1920

<http://blobspark.com>

Maryland Historic Trust Inventory Form AA-20 "St. Lawrence Catholic Church," prepared by Donna M. Ware, 1993.

Susan Orlean, "The Queen of Saturday Night" *Washington Post* February 11, 1990: M19.

Ware, Donna M. *Anne Arundel's Legacy: The Historic Properties of Anne Arundel County*. Office of Planning and Zoning: Annapolis, 1990.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 220.9
Acreage of historical setting 220.9
Quadrangle name Savage

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Blob's Park occupies the 220.09-acre farm purchased by Max Blob in the late 1920s. A winding paved road (Max Blob's Park Road) leads from Old Annapolis Road (MD 175) to the property. The property is bounded to the north, east, and south by dense and mature vegetation. Commercial development is located along Annapolis Road, north of the property's vegetation. A handful of freestanding single dwellings are located along Max Blob's Park Road, which are owned by relatives of Max Blob.

The boundary encompasses the original tract of land, which is still intact, purchased and farmed by Max Blob, developer of Blob's Park.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Elizabeth Breiseth, Architectural Historian		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	March 2007
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

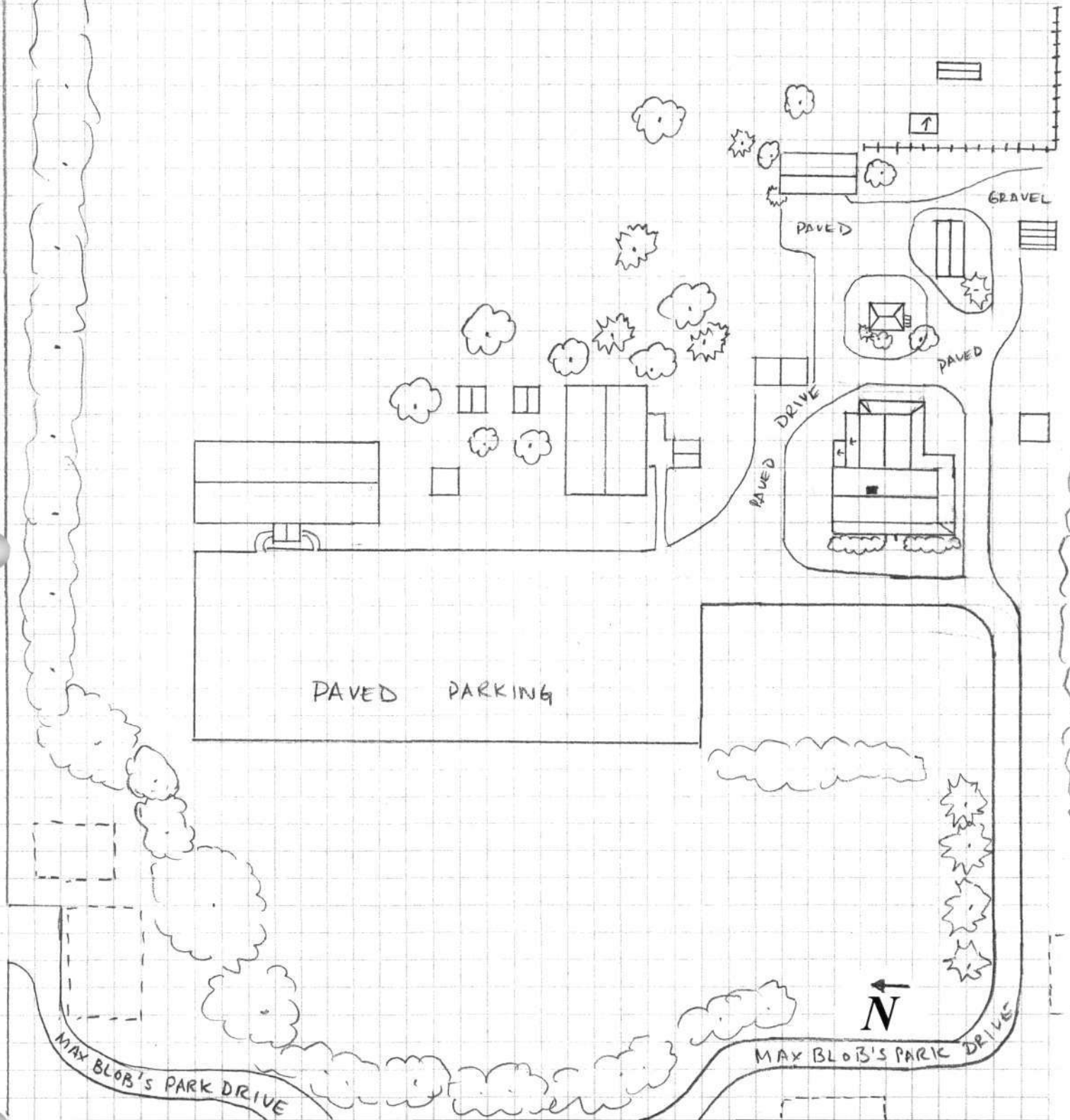
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

MD 103 (Annapolis Road)



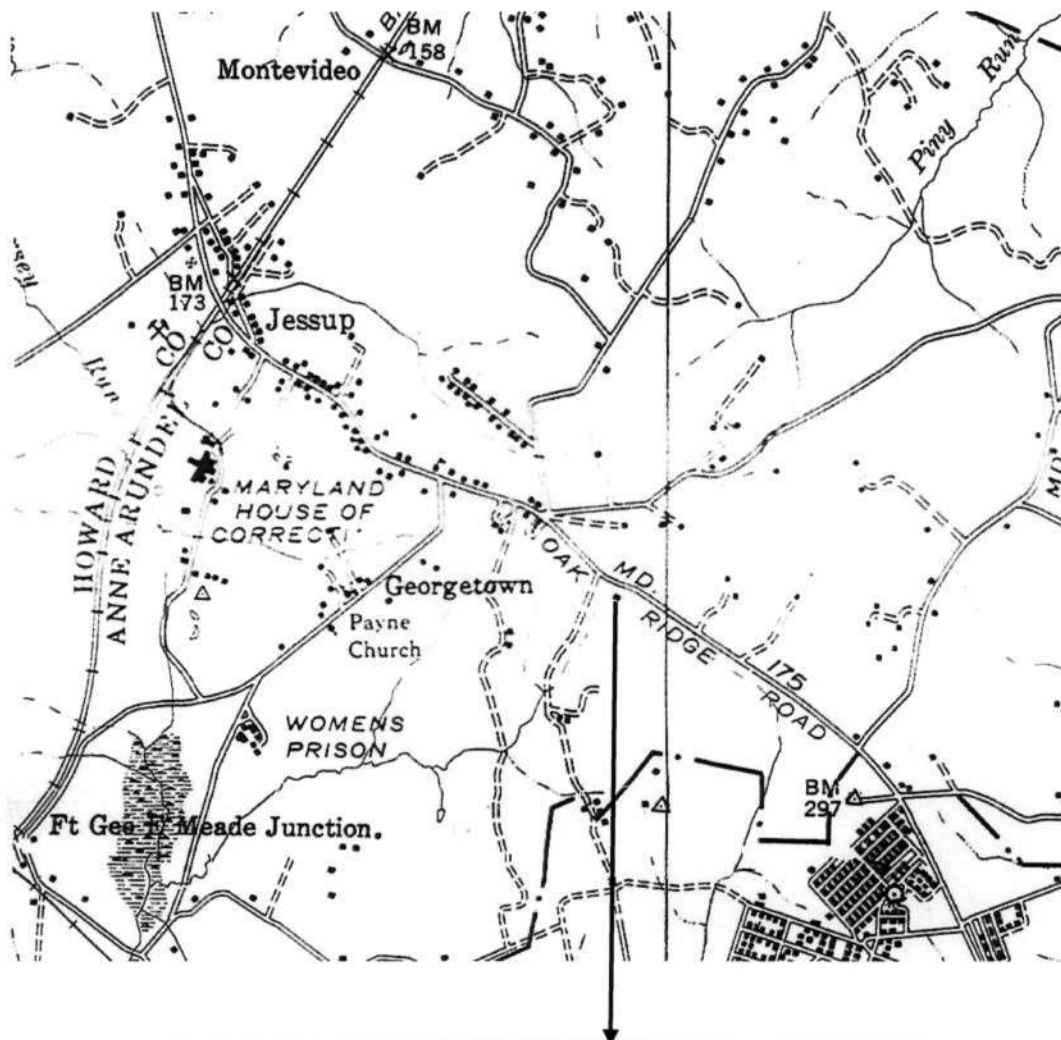
ID#: AA-2377

Name: Blob's Park

Address: 8012 Max Blob's Park Drive

Town/Town Vicinity: Jessup

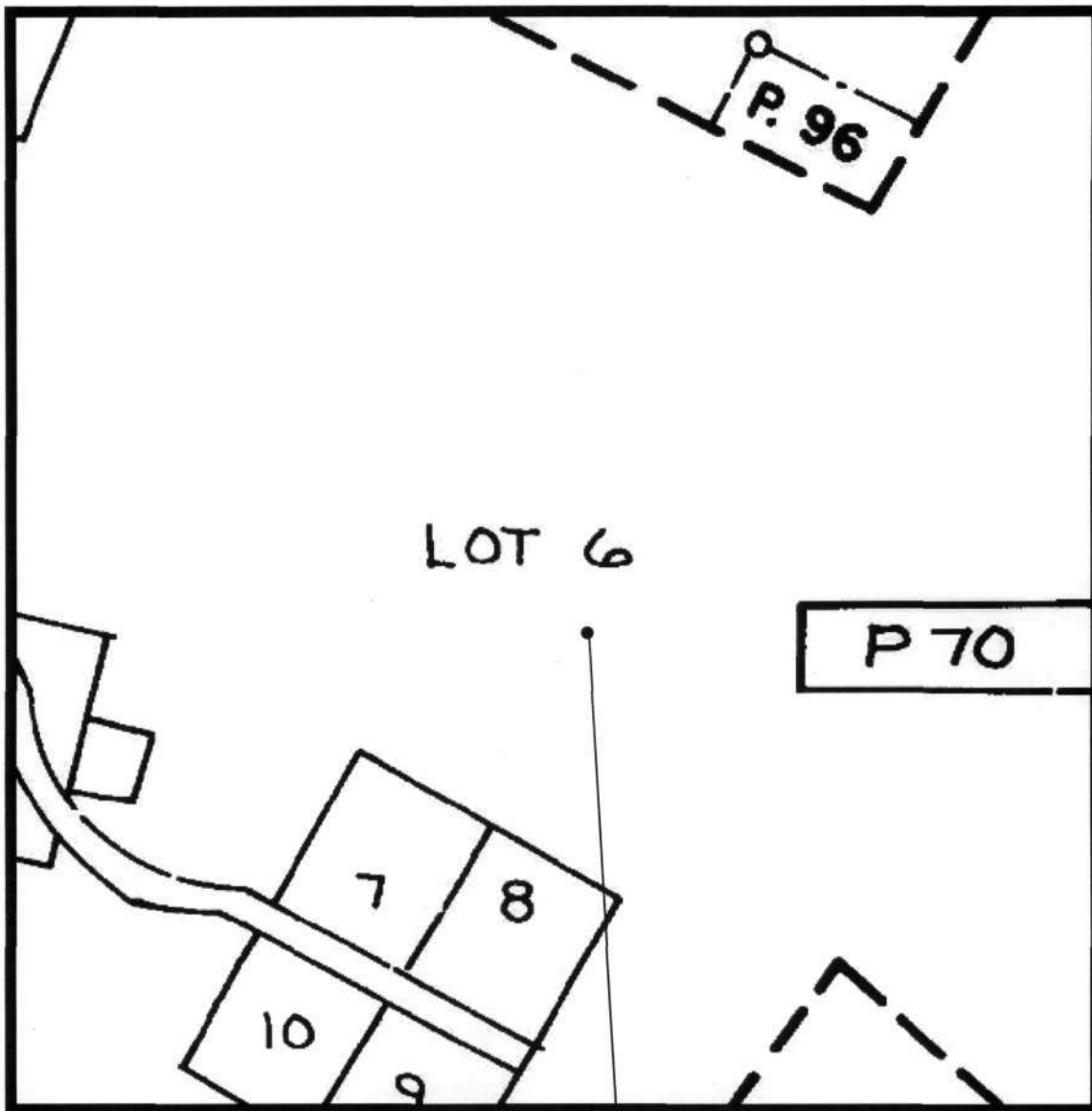
County: Anne Arundel



Blob's Park (AA-2377)
8012 Max Blob's Park Road
Jessup, Anne Arundel County, MD

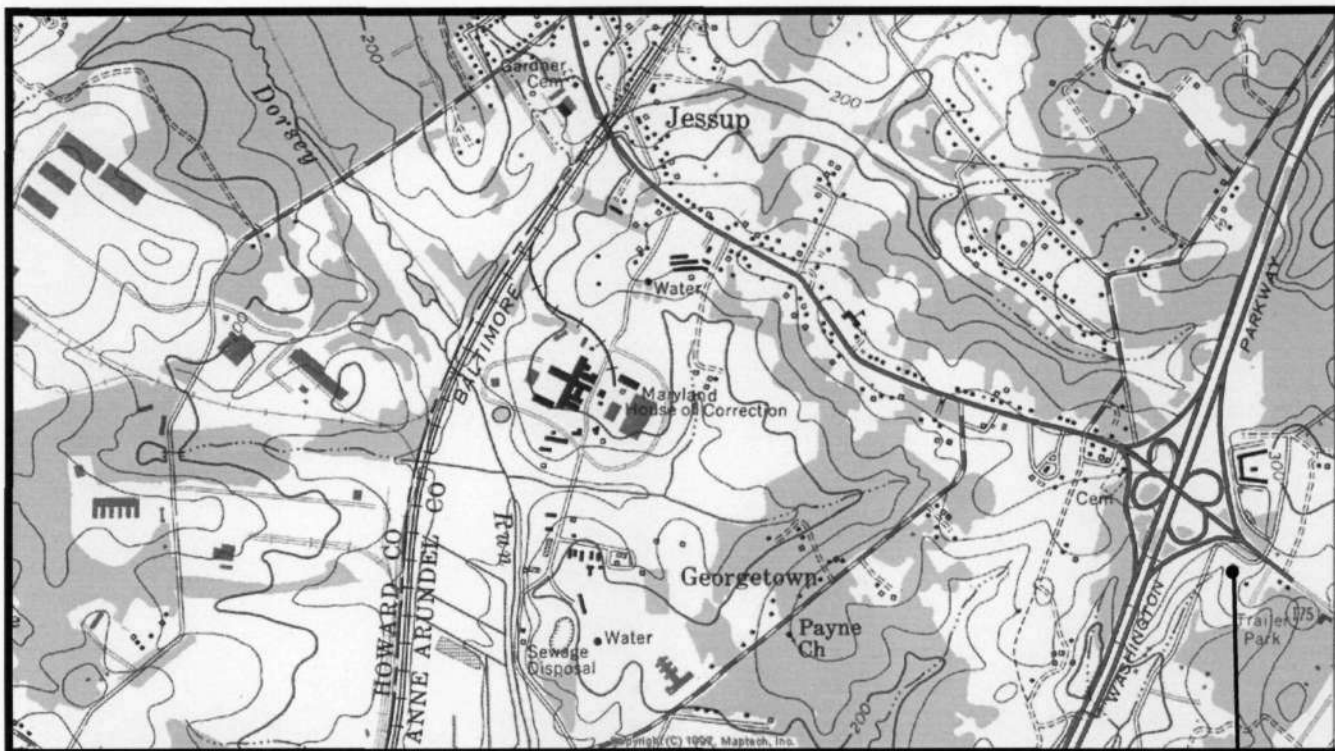
1949 *Topographic Map of Anne Arundel County*





Blob's Park
8012 Max Blob's Park Road
Anne Arundel County
Jessup, MD
Tax Parcel Map (13-18, 70)
EHT Tracerics, Inc., 2007





Blob's Park (AA-2377)
8012 Max Blob's Park Road
Jessup, Anne Arundel County, MD
Savage USGS Map
EHT Tracerics, Inc., 2007





AA- 2377

Biob's Park

8012 Max Biob's Park Road

Anne Arundel county, MD

EHT Traceries

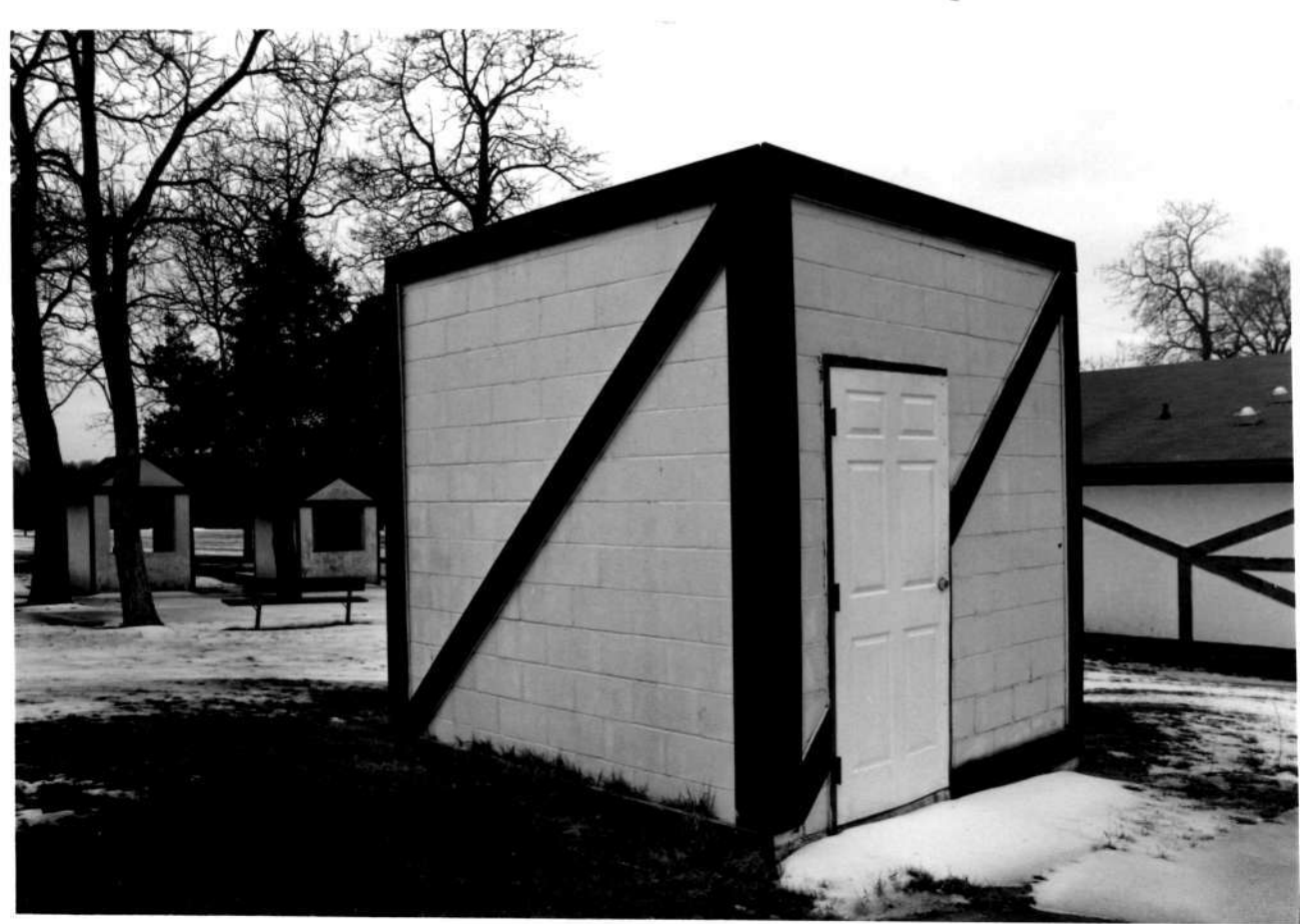
2/2007

MD SHPO

Southwest corner, facade

13/36

1 of 14



AA-2377

Blob's Park

8012 max Blob's Park Road

Anne Arundel county, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

Shed, northwest corner, facade

14/30

2 of 14



AA-2377

Bob's Park

8012 Max Bob's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traceries

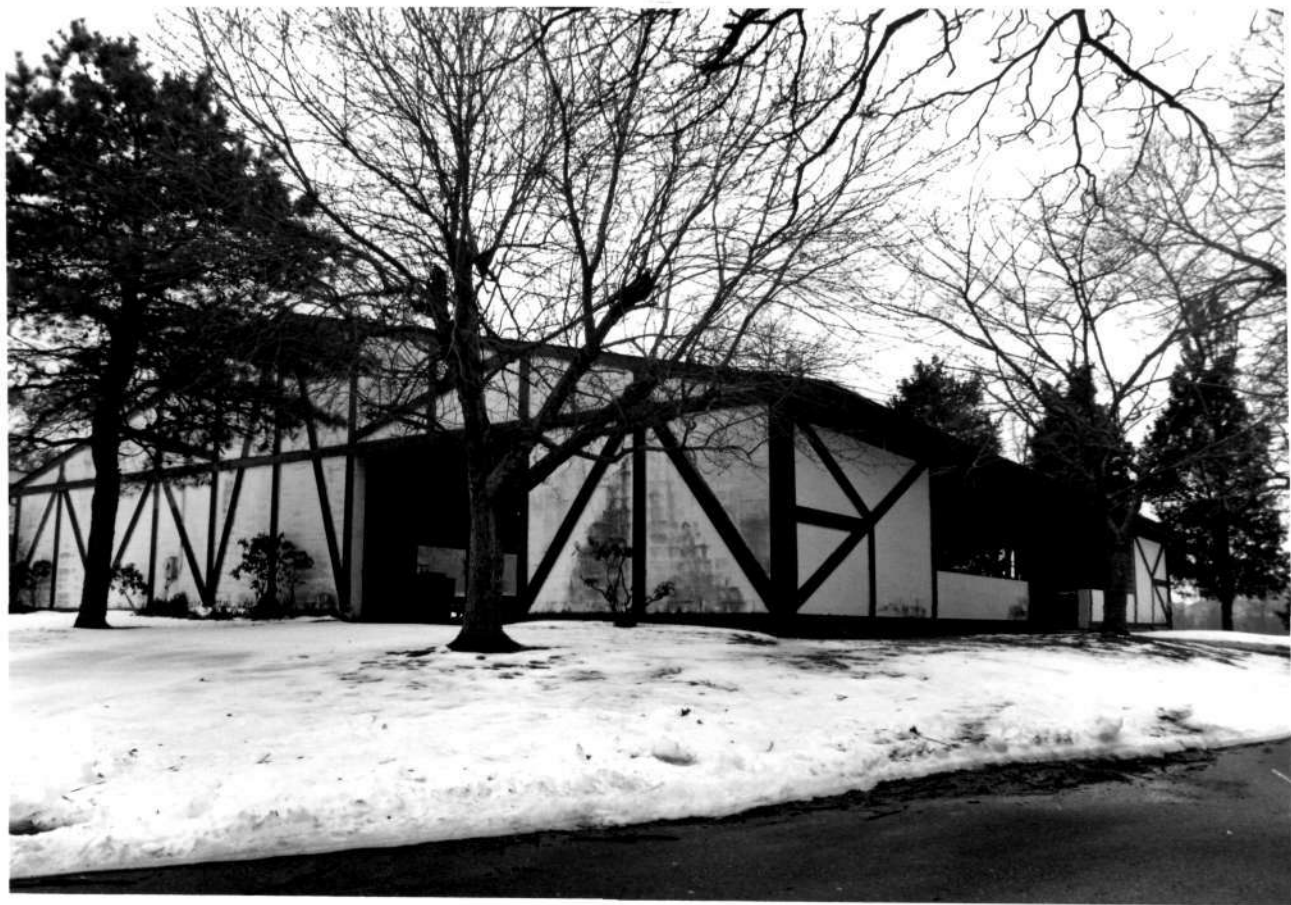
2/2007

MD SHPO

Polka hall; southwest corner, facade

15P

3 of 14



AA-2377

Blob's Park

8012 Max Blob's Park Road

Anne Arundel county, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

Pavilion

16/2
4 of 14



ICE
TEA

LEMONADE

DIET
COKE

COKE

SPRITE

AA-2377

Blobs Park

8012 Max Blobs Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traceries

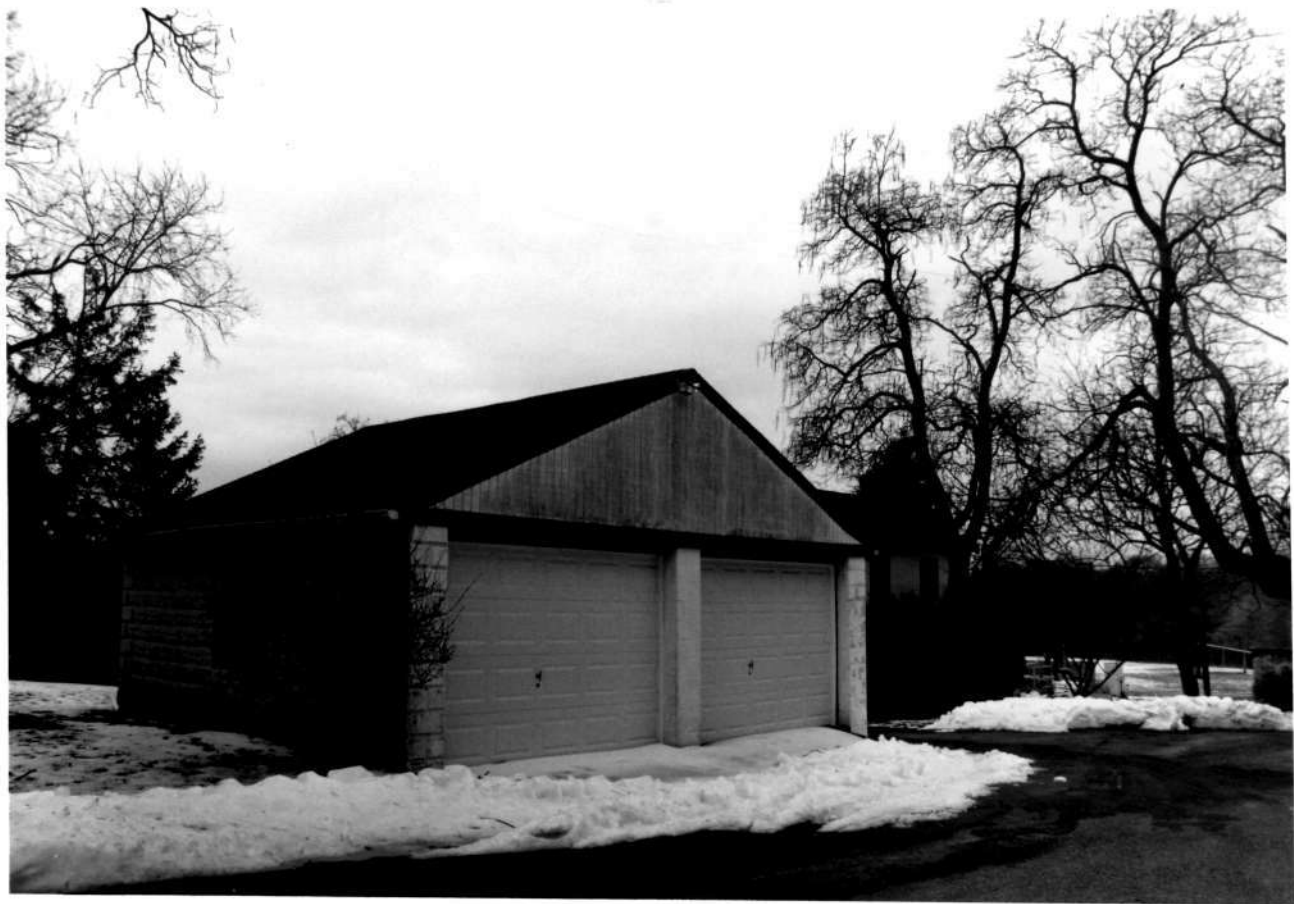
2/2007

MD SHPO

Concession stand, north west corner

17/3

5 of 14



AA-2377

Blobb's Park

8012 Max Blobb's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traceries

2/2007

MD SHDO

Garage, northeast corner, facade

18/30

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AA-2377

Blubb's Park

8012 Max Blubb's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

North elevation

19/36

7 of 14



AA-2377

Blodd's Park

8012 Max Blodd's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT traceries

2/2007

MD SHPO

garage, south elevation

201/16

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AA-2327

Blob's Park

8012 Max Blob's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

Storage shed, northwest corner, facade

21/30

9 of 14



AA-2377

Bidd's Park

8012 Max Bidd's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT traces

2/2007

MD SHDO

East (rear) elevation

22/20

10 of 14



AA-2377

Bidd's Park

8012 Max Bidd's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

Office, northwest corner, facade

23/22

11 of 14



AA-2377

Bob's Park

8012 Max Bob's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traces

2/2007

MD SHPO

Smokehouse, west elevation

24/30

12 of 14



AA-2377

Blubb's Park

8012 Max Blubb's Park Road

Anne Arundel County, MD

EHT Traceries

2/2007

MD SHPO

Southwest corner, facade

2513

13 of 14



AA-2377

Blodd's Park

8012 Max Blodd's Park Road

Anne Arundel county, MD

EHT Traceries

2/2007

MD SHPO

West elevation, facade

26/32

14 of 14